

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully note that an Information Disclosure Statement, accompanied by PTO Form 1449, was filed concurrently with the application on October 25, 2001. Applicants request that the Examiner review the cited references, and initial Form 1449 so that the references are made of record and identified on the face of any patent which may issue from this application.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 5 and 13 have been amended to be in independent form, and now recite the features of their respective base and intervening claims. No new matter is added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of claims 3, 4, 11 and 12, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5 and 13.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 7-9 and 15-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,219,021 to Izumi. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Examiner contends that Izumi discloses an electronic apparatus having a display panel and a lighting means for lighting the display panel; a parameter adjusting means for, with a variation in a light state as a trigger, adjusting a parameter; and a signal correcting means for inputting and correcting an input display signal. The Examiner contends Izumi discloses that the adjusted parameter is the size of the characters.

Claims 1 recites the features of “a parameter adjusting means for, with a variation in a light state of said lighting means as a trigger, adjusting a parameter participating in picture quality so as to conform said light state” and “a signal correcting means for inputting a display signal and correcting an input display signal.” Independent claim 9 recites similar subject matter on a recording medium. The claimed invention adjusts a parameter according to the “variation in a light state of [the] lighting means” — an illumination amount. The illumination amount from the lighting means acts as a trigger for the parameter adjusting means. Adjusting the parameter causes an input display signal to be corrected. In contrast, Izumi discloses that the “visibility of data displayed on the display panel can be improved by changing display configurations (size, font, normal/reverse video, etc.).” (Izumi, column 3, lines 60-63.) Izumi discloses that the number of characters to be displayed acts as a trigger for determining backlight illumination

duration. Izumi does not disclose correcting the input display signal. Therefore, Applicants submit that Izumi does not disclose each and every feature of independent claims 1 and 9. Thus, Izumi does not anticipate the invention of claims 1 and 9.

Claims 7 and 8 depend from claim 1. Claims 15 and 16 depend from claim 9. Applicants submit that claims 7, 8, 15 and 16 are patentable over Izumi for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 6, 10 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izumi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,611,249 to Evanicky et al. (“Evanicky”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Examiner acknowledges that Izumi does not disclose that a parameter includes information used for tone reproduction curve correction or a white balance adjustment. The Examiner cites Evanicky as disclosing “a tone reproduction curve correction and a white balance adjustment upon receiving a light-sensing signal from a light sending device.” (Detailed Office Action, item 5, page 4.) The Examiner contends that it would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Izumi and Evanicky to achieve the claimed invention.

Applicants submit that the combination of Izumi and Evanicky neither discloses nor suggests, singly or in combination, the feature recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claim 9, of "a parameter adjusting means for, with a variation in a light state of said lighting means as a trigger, adjusting a parameter participating in picture quality so as to conform said light state." Claims 2 and 6 depend from claim 1. Claims 10 and 14 depend from claim 9.

Applicants submit that the combination of Izumi and Evanicky does not result in the invention of claims 2, 6, 10 and 14, and that claims 2, 6, 10 and 14 are patentable over the combination of Izumi and Evanicky for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims. Thus,

Applicants submit that the Examiner has not met the burden of establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

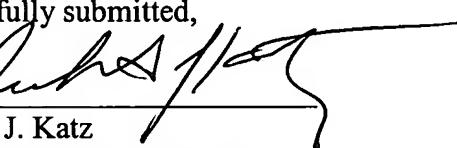
CONCLUSION

Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated March 19, 2004 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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